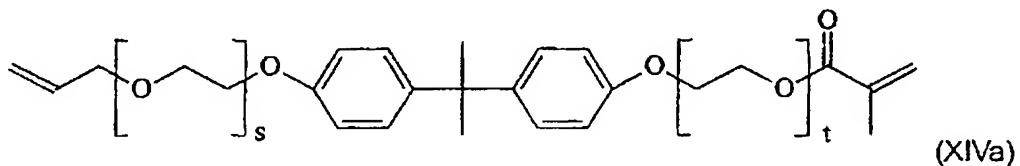


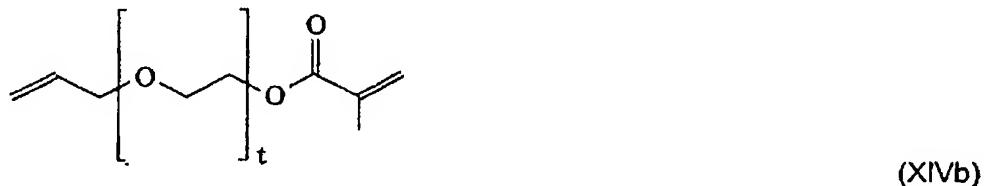
**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 31, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Asymmetric crosslinkers quite particularly preferred according to the invention include compounds of the formula (XIV), in particular



wherein s and t are greater than or equal to zero and the sum s+t preferably lies in the range from 1 to 20, in particular in the range from 2 to 10, and compounds of the formula (XIII), in particular



wherein ~~s and t are t is~~ greater than or equal to zero and ~~the sum s+ t~~ preferably lies in the range from 1 to 20, in particular in the range from 2 to 10.